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(b) whether it is a fact that out of 88 clerks there is hardly one Muslim even in this lowest cadre in the Co-operative department; and

(c) the reasons why there is such disparity in the proportion of Muslims in the Co-operative department?

A.—(a) The Government observe from the establishment list corrected up to 30th June 1928 that the facts are as stated except that there are 15 Muhammadan junior inspectors.

(b) There are three Muhammadan routine clerks.

(c) The Government have called for a report.

Alleged discouragement to Muslim co-operative societies.

*1992 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have laid down any policy prohibiting or discouraging separate co-operative societies being started for Muslims;

(b) whether it is a fact that the district central banks have refused to finance purely Muslim banks;

(c) if so, which are the central banks that would not finance Muslim banks and why; and

(d) whether it is a fact that purely Christian banks are financed by the district central banks?

A.—(a) No.

(b) It is not a fact.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government have no information.

Number and location of land mortgage banks in the Presidency.

*1993 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of land mortgage banks in the province;

(b) where they are situated;

(c) the capital of each; and

(d) the interest per cent charged last year on loans advanced to them?

A.—(a) to (c) A statement [a] furnishing the information is appended.

(d) Land mortgage banks obtain money principally by floating debentures. The public are allowed interest at 7 per cent on these debentures while the rate payable to Government is 6½ per cent.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"May I know whether the Government would try to find out whether they cannot lend money at a lesser rate of interest?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"The question will be considered, Sir."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider the question of not insisting upon a high percentage on the debentures?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"I think it will have to be considered after the formation of the Central Land Mortgage Bank."

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 1043–1044 infra.